

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 ABF-01 EB-07 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 AID-05 OES-07 IGA-02  
/105 W

-----030908Z 050673 /10

P R 030803Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2088  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 3039

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, SS, UNHCR, MO  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE US CONTRIBUTION FOR SAHARAN REFUGEES

REF: (A) STATE 98562, (B) RABAT 2399

1. FONMIN LARIKI QUERIED AMBASSADOR ON MAY 31 REGARDING RECENT ARTICLES ON SAHARA ISSUE IN US PRESS (SEPTEL. ONE POINT OF CONCERN TO LARIKI WAS THAT, ACCORDING TO REPORT FROM MOROCCAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON POST MAY 29 ARTICLE BY JOSEPH FITCHETT STATED THAT THE US WAS STUDYING FOR THE FIRST TIME THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTRIBUTING SUBSTANTIALLY TO RELIEF OF SAHARAN REFUGEES THROUGH THE UN. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION ON JUNE 1, HOWEVER, FOREIGN MINISTER DID NOT RAISE THIS POINT, AND AMBASSADOR VOLUNTEERED NO COMMENT ON IT.

2. MEANWHILE, LOCAL PRESS JUNE 2 CARRIED TEXT OF A LARIKI MESSAGE TO THE ICRC ON REFUGEES. REFERRING TO MAY 24 BOUTEFLIKA TELEGRAM TO THE ICRC, LARIKI MESSAGE EXPRESSED REGRET THAT ALGERIAN AUTHORITIES WERE EXPLOITING THE SAHARA REFUGEE QUESTION.

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LARIKI WENT ON TO REITERATE THE MOROCCAN POSITION ON REFUGEES, INCLUDING THE GOM'S INVITATION TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO REPATRIATE THEM TO THE SAHARA. LARIKI DEPLORED LACK OF PROGRESS ON THIS QUESTION AND CHARGED THAT ASSISTANCE RENDERED TO THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT IN NO WAY ATTENUATED THE SUFFERING AND MISERY OF THE REFUGEES BUT INSTEAD CONSTITUTED AN ENCOURAGEMENT AND STIMULANT FOR ALGERIAN DESIGNS. LARIKI CONCLUDED BY

CALLING ON ALL ONLOOKERS TO DRAW THE NECESSARY CONCLUSIONS.

3. COMMENT IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT LARAKI BOTH IN HIS DEMARCHE  
TO THE AMBASSADOR AND IN HIS MESSAGE TO THE ICRC REFLECTS THE  
MOROCCAN DESIRE TO HEAD OFF INTERNATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO SAHARA  
REFUGEES. AS NOTED REFTEL, MOROCCAN SENSITIVITY ON THIS  
ISSUE APPEARS UNABATED.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 98562, 77 RABAT 2399  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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